BARNEY GOOGLE & SPARK PLUG

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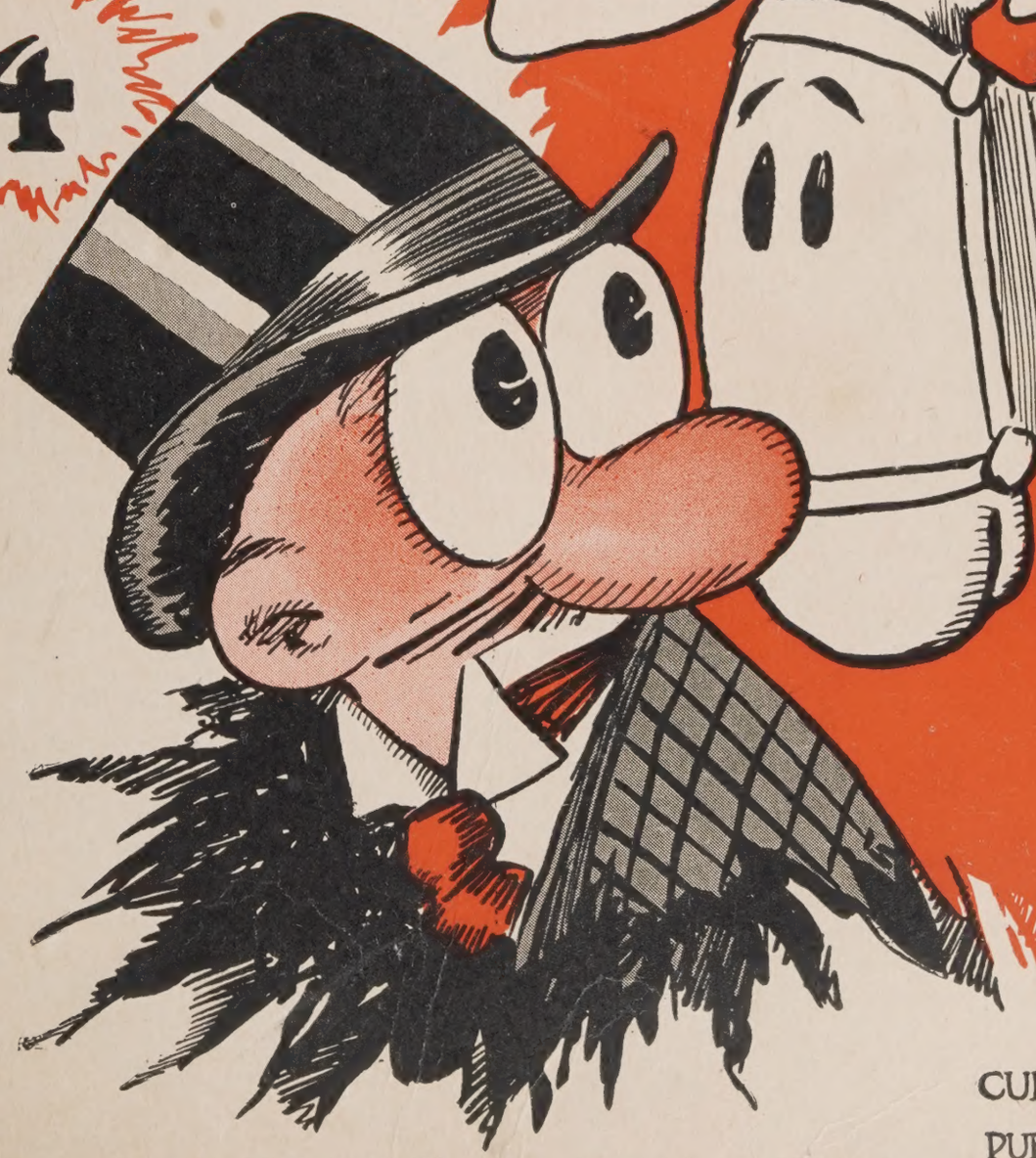
BY BILLY DE BECK



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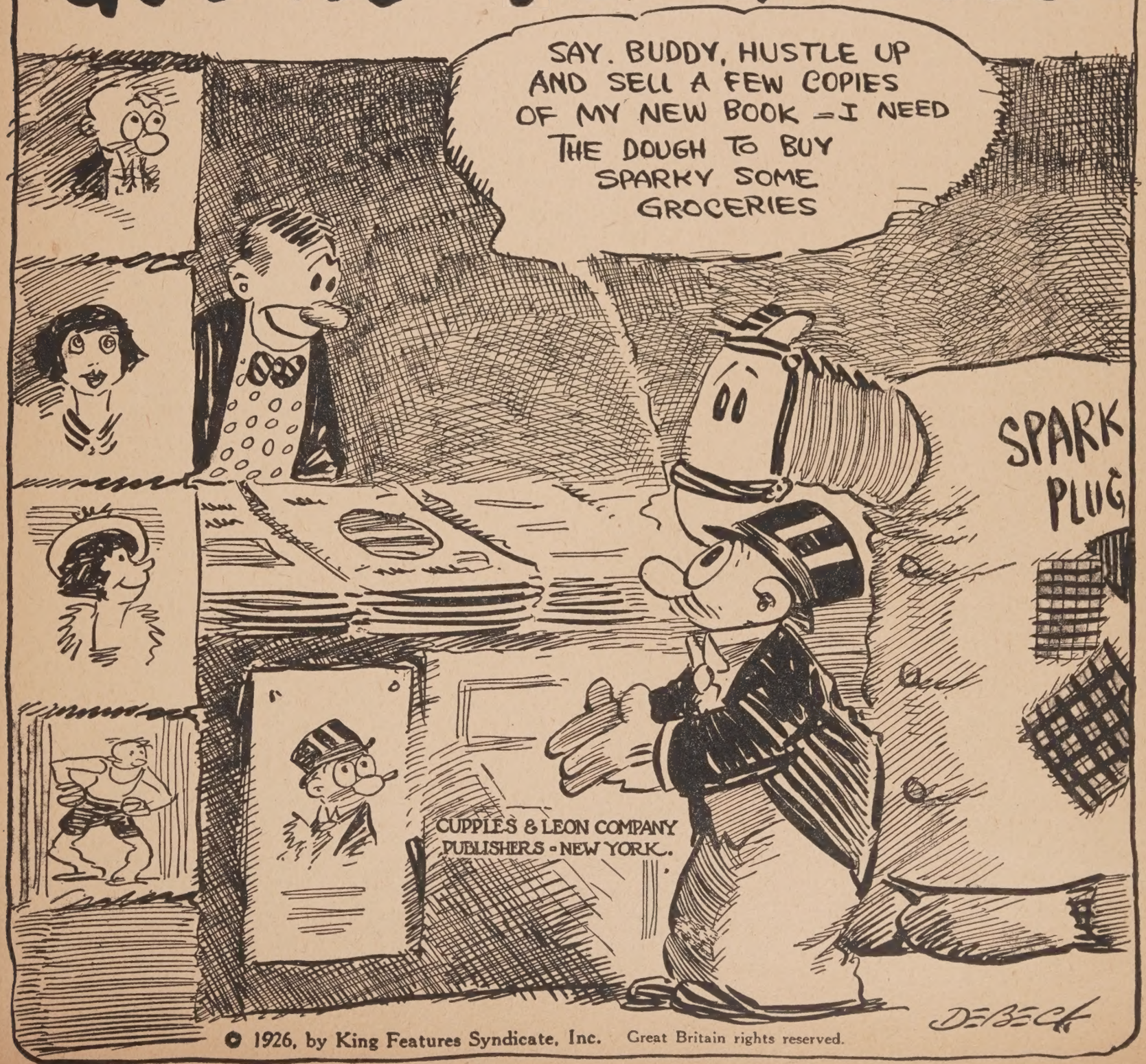

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FOREWORD

JUST before this book went to press I was sitting in my pajamas (they were pink ones) drawing my Barney Google and Spark Plug pictures for the newspapers, when there came a knock at the door.

"Come in," I said. And It came in.

It was an Indian Yogi—one of those skinny, tanned, Oriental guys, with a white turban around his head, big, brown eyes and sandals on his feet. (I afterward made a sketch of what he looked like from memory; which I give you herewith.)

He gave me the icy glare. I had the cold shivers.

"William De Beck," said he, "You are putting out a new Barney Google and Spark Plug book. I have come from India to give you glad tidings."

"If anyone buys five copies of this book and sends them to five of his friends, he will have wonderful luck. If each person who receives one of these books immediately goes out and buys five more and sends them to five of his friends, the sender will have wonderful luck. Only one thing is necessary. Each sender must keep one copy in his possession."

"If anyone receives a copy of this book and fails to buy five more to send to his acquaintances, the Amalgamated Order of Mystics will not be responsible for the consequences."

I was overwhelmed with astonishment. I was so happy because all my friends had bought the previous editions of this book that I was reluctant to crowd them with this terrible obligation.

"What do you mean?" I asked.

"Just what I said," replied It. And, right before my eyes, the guy vanished in the air.

Now I'm taking no responsibility in this matter. I'm giving it to you for just what it's worth. But I think it's an interesting proposition. If I were you—and I'm talking to you like a brother—I'd try it.

DE BECK

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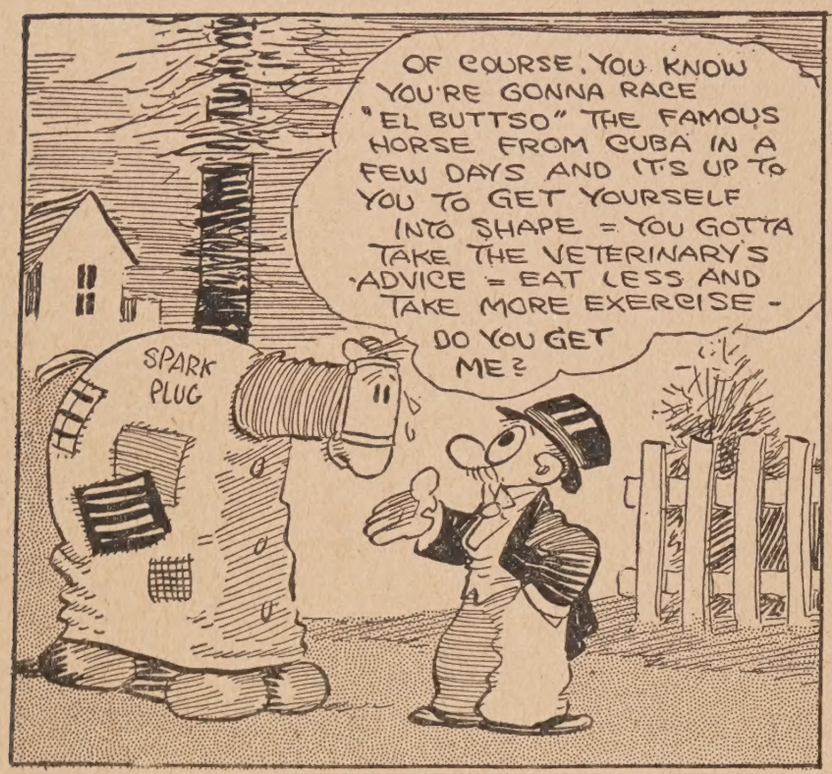

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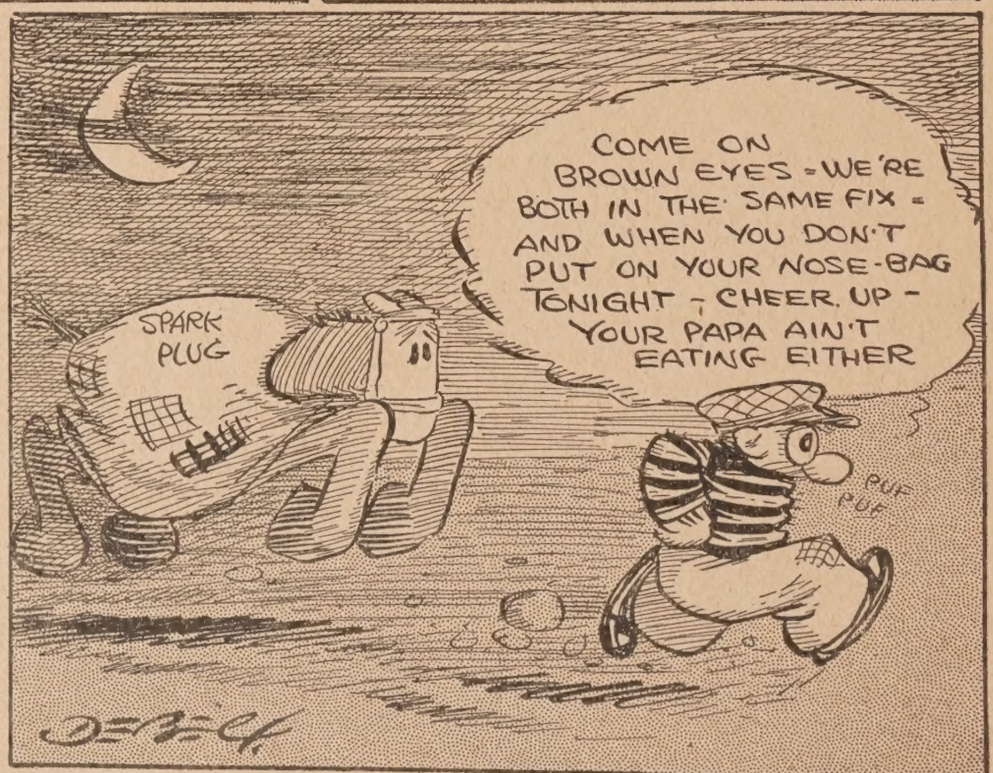

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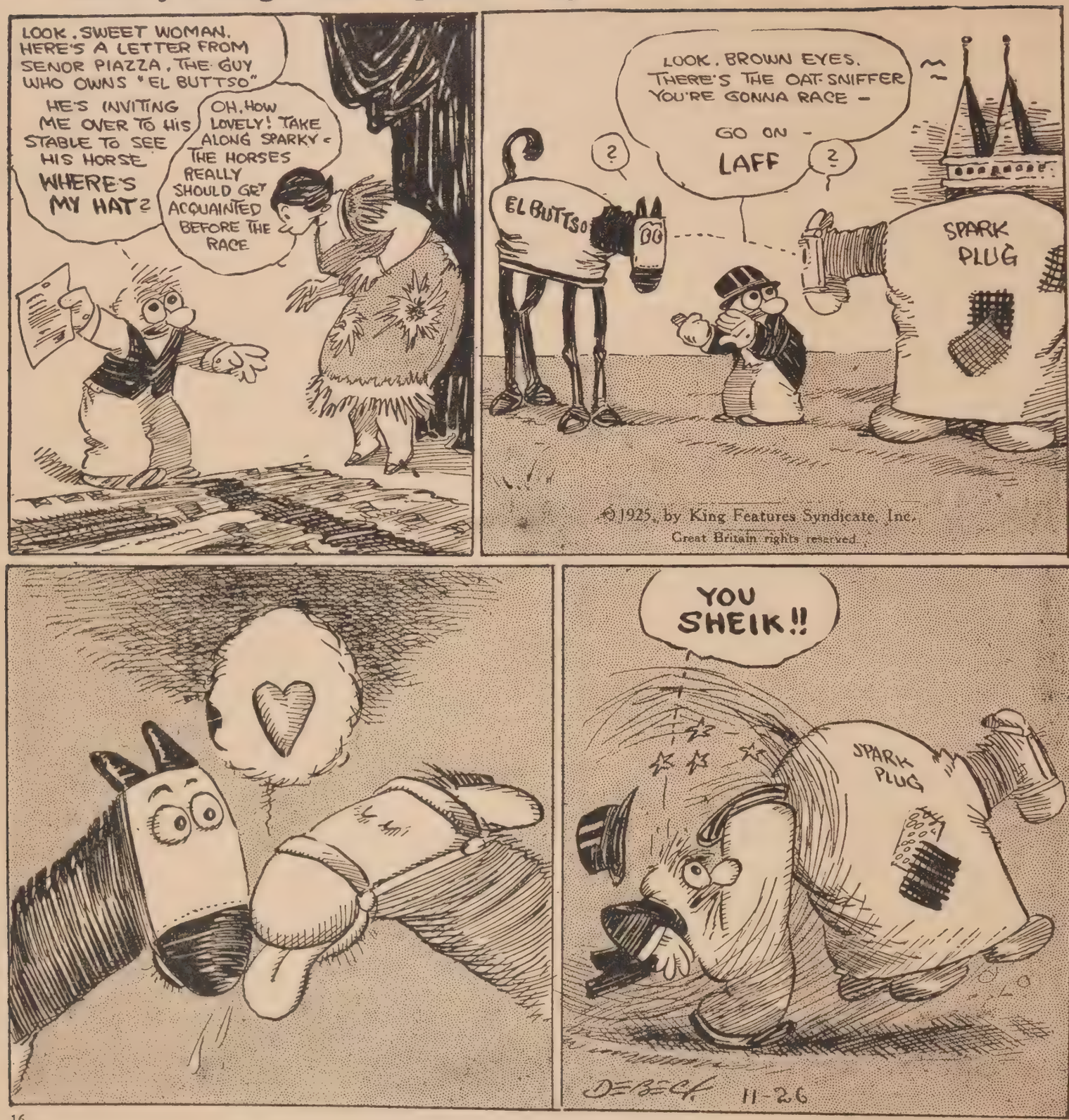

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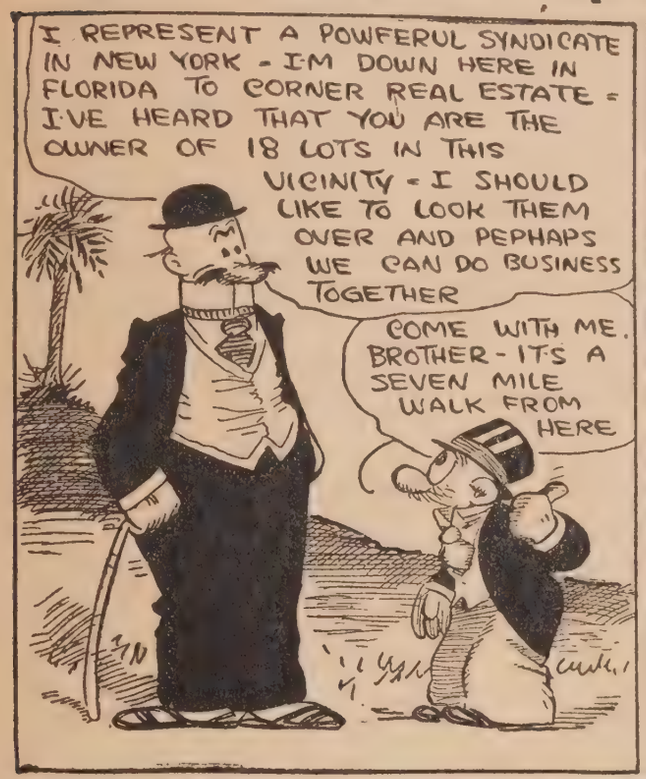

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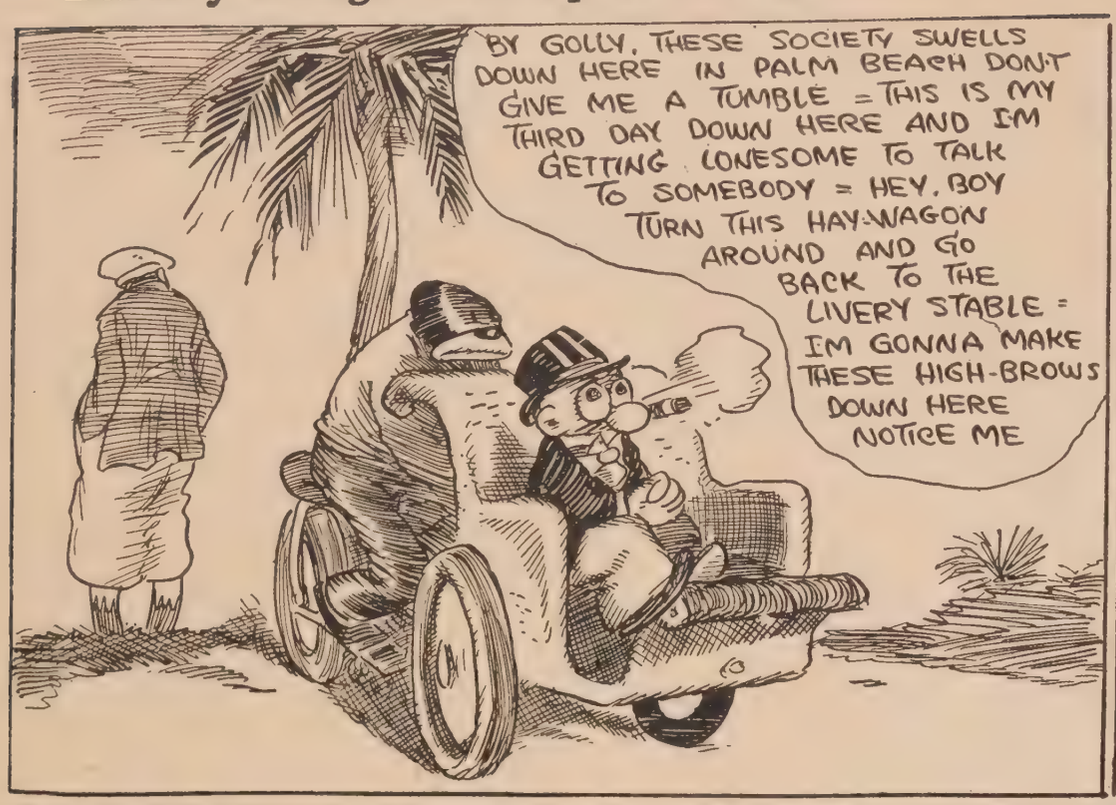

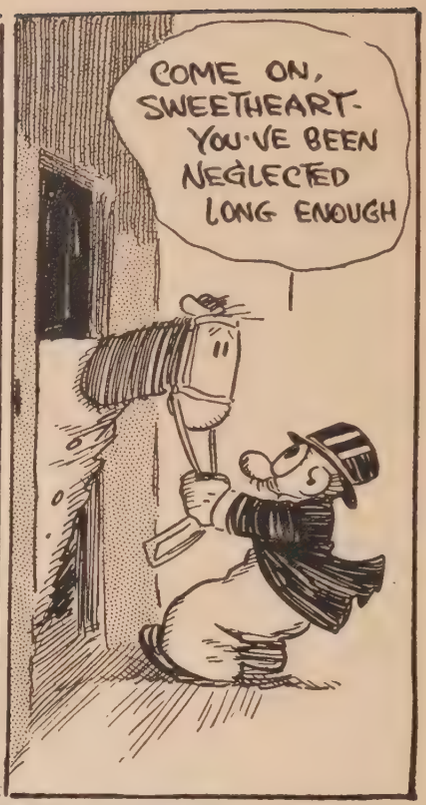

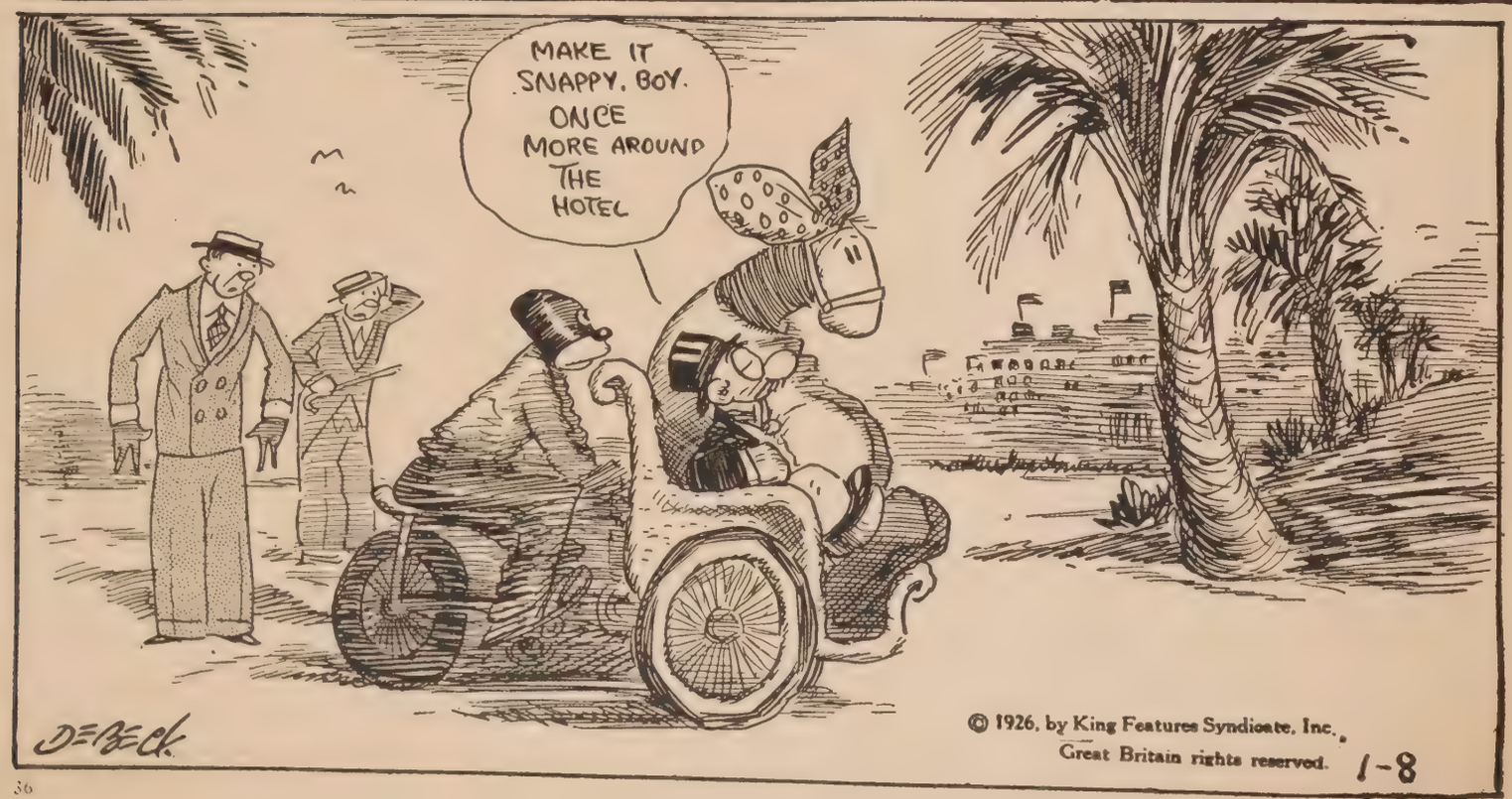

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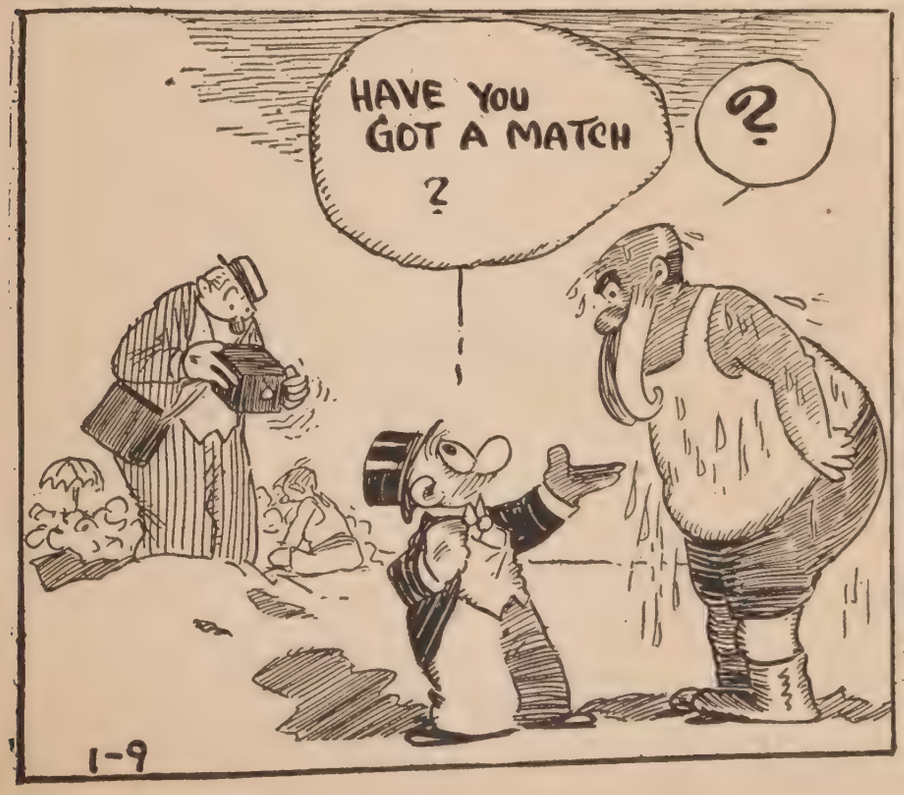

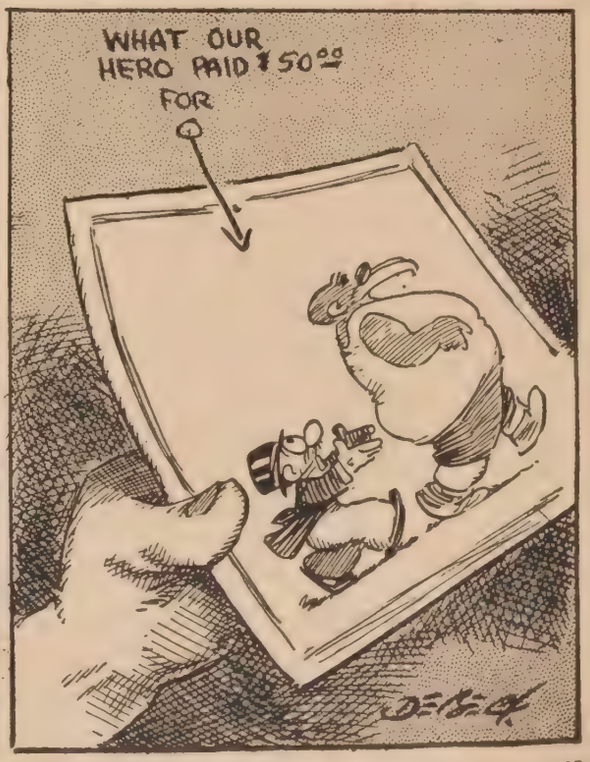

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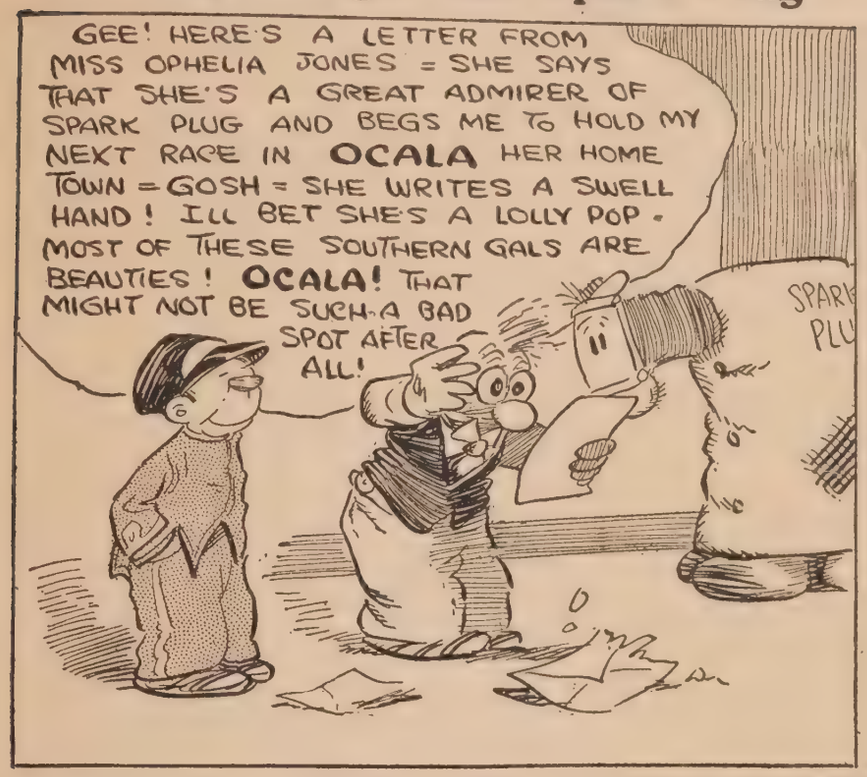

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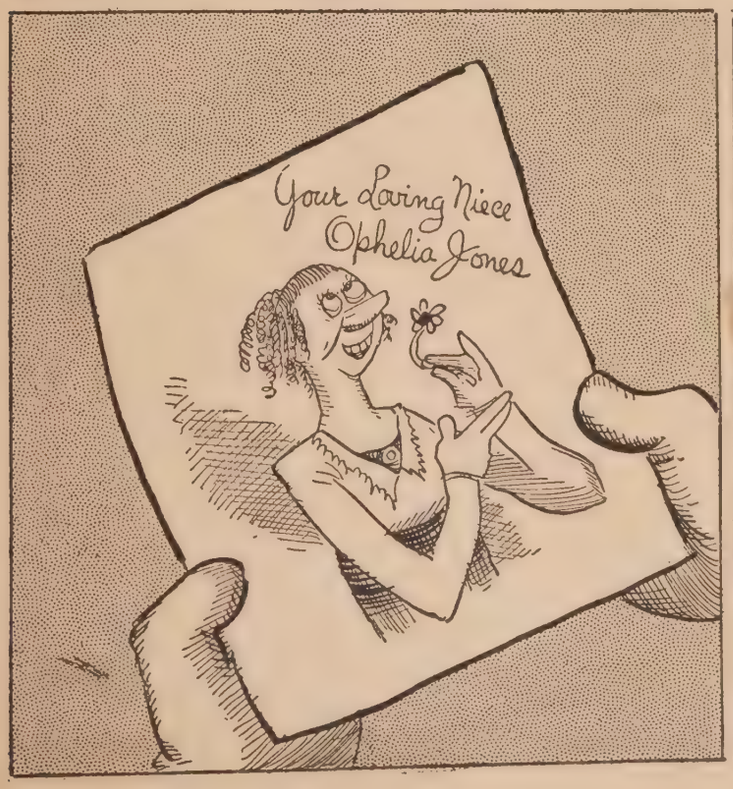

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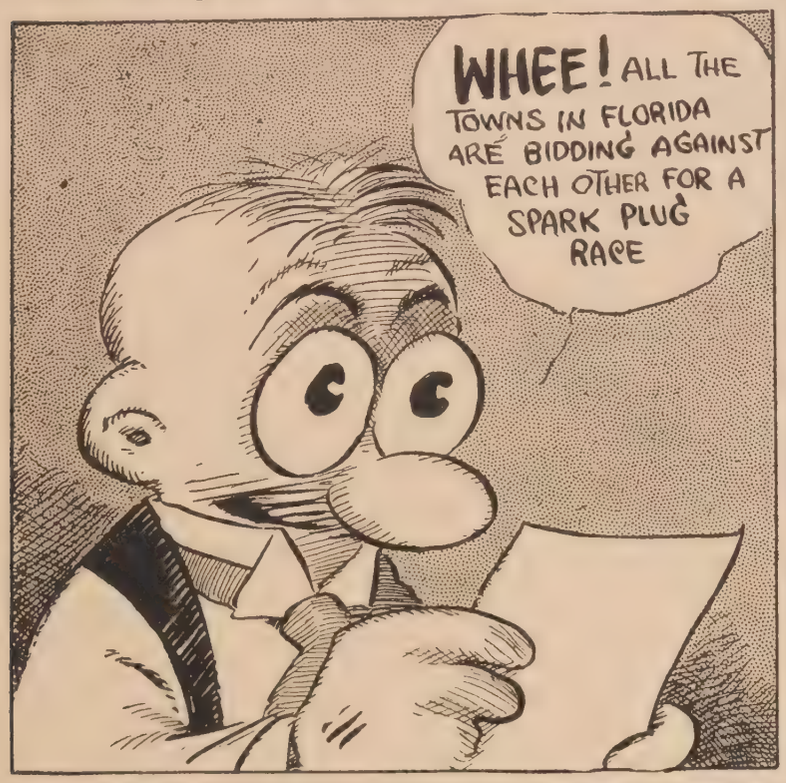

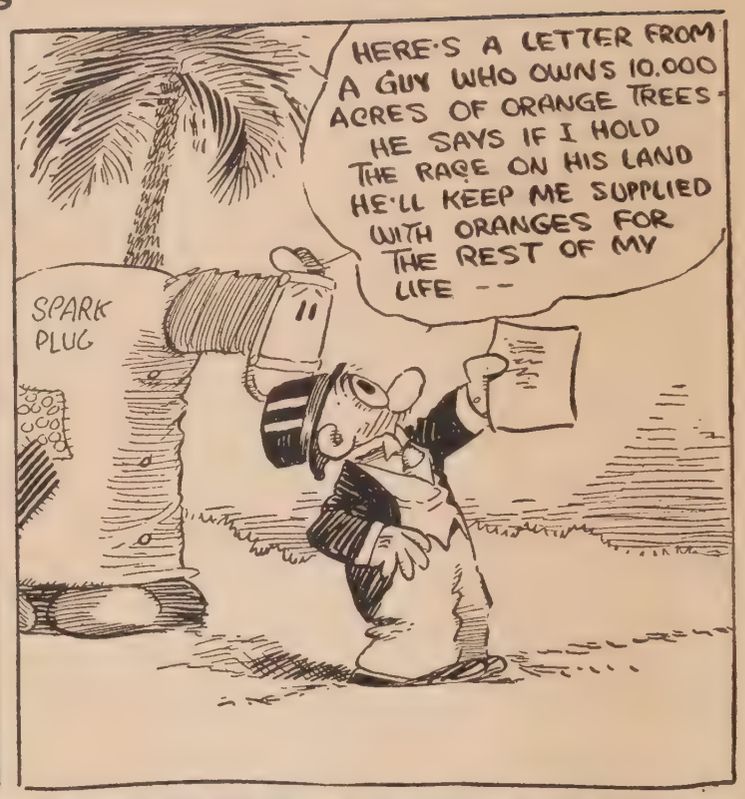

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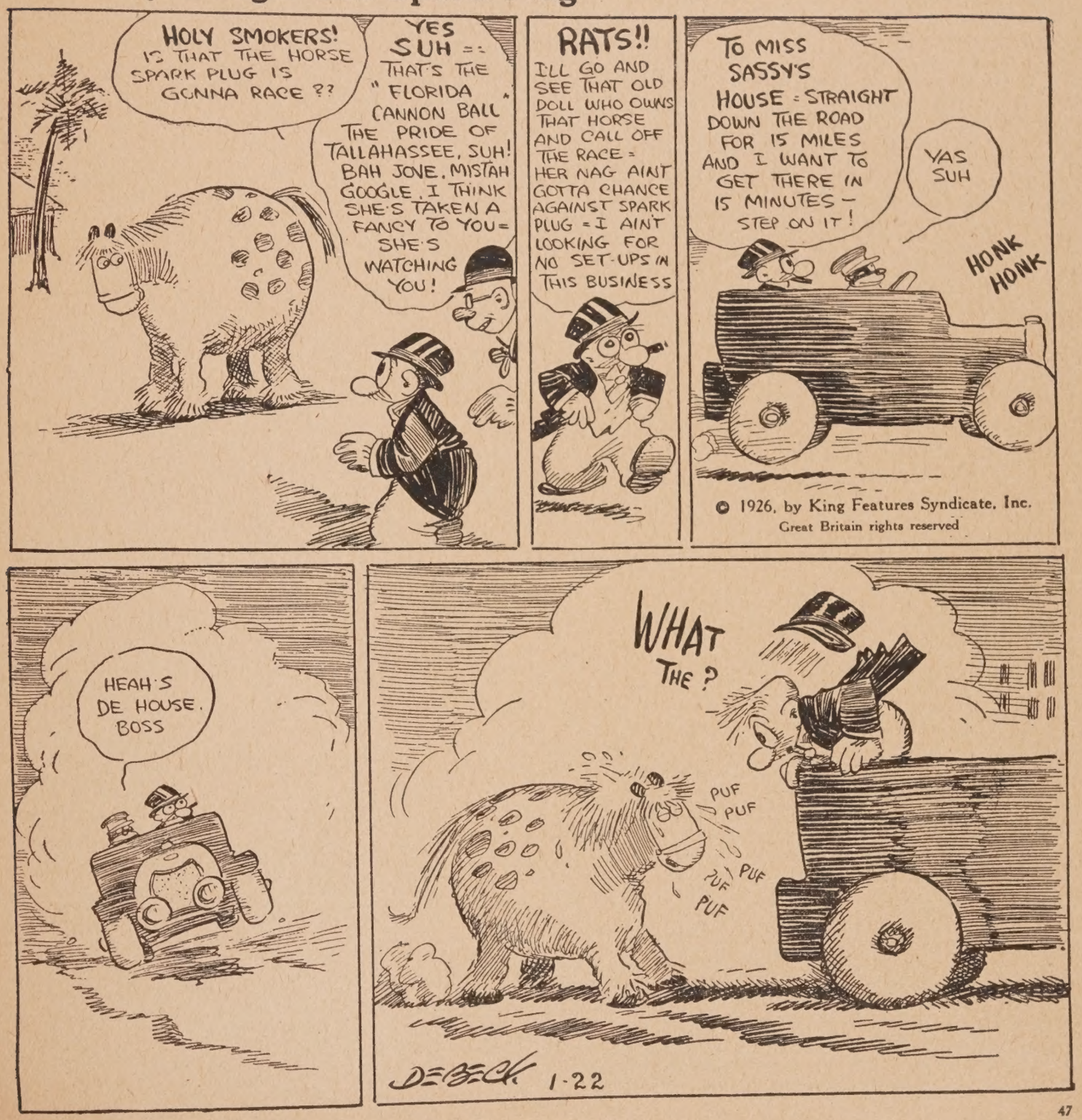

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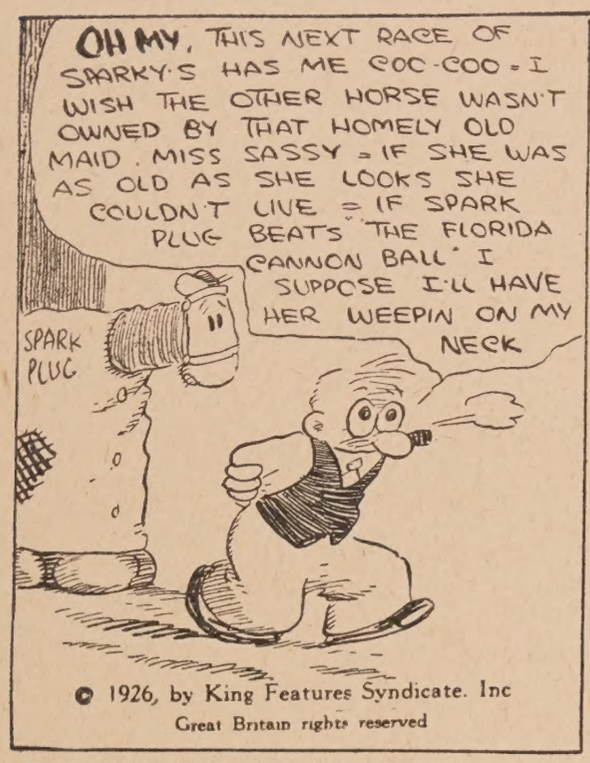

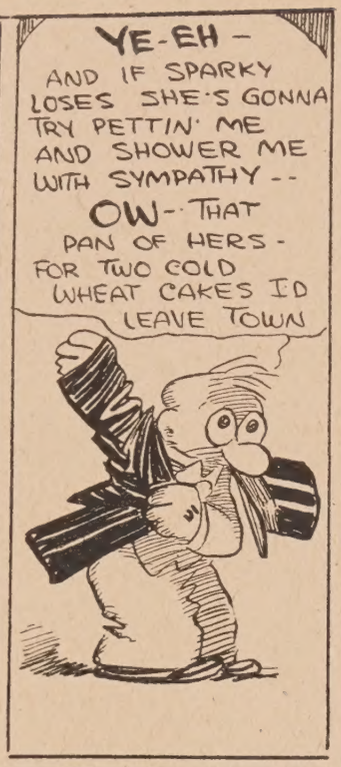

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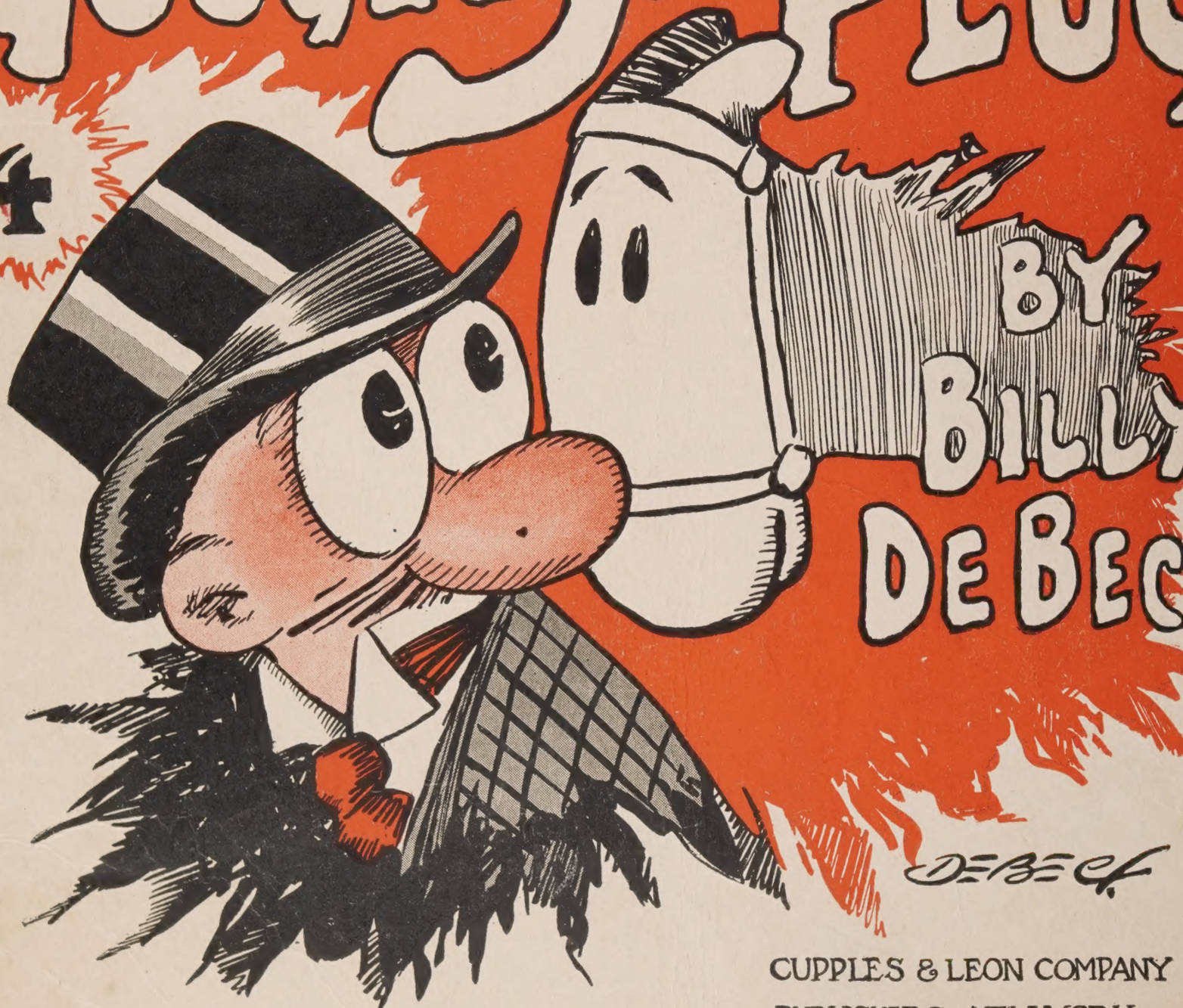

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